

**HAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM  
January 9, 2006 – 7:00 PM**

**PRESENT:** Jim Workman, Chairman  
Cliff Pratt, Vice-Chairman  
Rick Griffin  
Ben Moore  
Virginia Bridle-Russell  
James S. Barrington, Town Manager  
Maureen Duffy, Administrative Assistant

**REGRETS:**

**Chairman Jim Workman called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and introduced those in attendance.**

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG** – Chief Lipe led the audience in the salute to the flag.

Moment of silence for Mr. Former Fire Chief Howard Stickney.

**I. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNITY CALENDAR**

Mrs. Bridle-Russell announced that the Town of Hampton Budget Committee Public Hearing will be held on Thursday, January 12, 2006 at Hampton Academy. The Town operating budget, school budget and warrant articles will be discussed.

Mr. Moore announced that the owner of northeast auctions, Ron Bourgeault has established a fund at the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, called Our New Hampshire Heritage. He is prepared to donate \$30,000 from that fund to restore the Town Clock. The clock would be dedicated to Hampton soldiers and sailors.

Mr. Pratt said that it is hoped that the Town Clock will be repaired by March. In addition Mr. Pratt mentioned that there were four letters included in the Selectmen's packets thanking Hampton firefighters for their good work.

Mr. Barrington announced that Natalie McMaster will be performing on February 2 at the Music Hall. Tickets are available through the Recreation Department. On March 28, the award winning musical Tap Dogs will be held at the Music Hall. He also mentioned that Craft Night will be held at Tuck Field. Third to fifth grade students are welcome to attend Valentines, St. Patrick's and Easter craft nights. The Recreation Department has a special evening ski trip planned on February 28, to Gunstock. Mr. Barrington also announced that Hampton resident Tom Gillick is in Exeter Hospital and is feeling better.

## II. APPOINTMENTS

None

## III. OLD BUSINESS

### 1. TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

The public hearings scheduled for January 9 to accept the Rockingham County and the Police "clean sweep" grants have been reschedule to January 16 due to publication requirements and deadlines.

Mr. Barrington attended the Exeter Road Railroad Bridge preconstruction conference on Wednesday, January 5, 2006. The project will be done in the spring, beginning no sooner than April 1 and being completed no later than May 25. The actual project will last six weeks, and the bridge will be closed for three weeks of that time. While their contract allows work on a 24/7 schedule, the contractor is expecting to actually work 10-hour days. These facts were all mentioned to the Board at the April 4, 2005 meeting.

Fire Chief Hank Lipe provided the table below that lists the costs of providing the fire alarm service:

Year	Overtime	Materials/Equip	Total
2005	\$22,394.37	\$1,715.74	\$24,110.11
2004	\$11,379.37	\$3,558.30	\$14,937.67
2003	\$6,809.24	\$9,908.34	\$16,717.58
2002	\$7,363.72	\$3,723.96	\$11,087.68
2001	\$13,072.05	\$5,130.63	\$18,202.68
2000	\$11,395.98	\$5,605.63	\$17,001.61

The December legal bill for labor negotiations was \$6,760.90.

The Town office received Zoning Board of Adjustment (ZBA) abutters' notices for two upcoming variance requests. Plat maps were included in the Selectmen's packets. One is a lot subdivision between Lafayette Road and Park Avenue, and the other is a proposed condominium project adjacent to the Island Path Parking Lot.

Richie Sawyer took the oath of office as Police Captain on January 6, 2006.

As of January 6, there were 15 valid petitioned articles. These articles have been included in the Selectmen's packets.

A note from Town Clerk Arleen Andreozzi listed the following offices open for election on March 14, 2006:

#### **Town Elections:**

Moderator	1 opening – 2 year term
Selectmen	2 openings – 3 year term
Tax Collector	1 opening – 3 year term
Supervisor Checklist	1 opening – 6 year term
Trustee Trust Fund	1 opening – 3 year term
Library Trustee	2 openings – 3 year term
Cemetery Trustee	1 opening – 3 year term
Planning Board	2 openings – 3 year term

Budget Committee	4 openings - 3 year term
Zoning Board of Adjustment	2 openings - 3 year term

### **Hampton School Board**

School District Moderator	1 opening – 3 year term
School District Clerk	1 opening – 3 year term
School District Treasurer	1 opening – 3 year term
School Board Member	2 openings – 3 year term

The filing period for municipal offices begins January 25 and extends through to February 3.

Chief Lipe reported that the fire department responded to three box seven calls during the first eight days of the year. These calls cost \$1,696.20. If the number of responses continue at this pace it would cost \$77,380 for 2006.

The financial report for the year ending December 31, 2005 is currently showing an unobligated balance of \$50,000. This number is subject to change as adjustments are made.

The Town office received a nursing home application today. This will be discussed during the consent agenda.

Dick Violette sent a notice regarding construction activities on Church Street. On Tuesday, January 10 Northern Utilities will be installing a new gas main starting at the intersection with Ocean Boulevard and working west. Aquarion Water will then begin new water main installation on Tuesday, January 17 also working west from Ocean Boulevard. Zoppo Corporation will begin prep work for installation of the new sewer main, Wednesday, January 11, 2006. Church Street will be closed to through traffic during construction. Island Path and Brown Avenue will be open for Highway 101 and 95 access.

### **Selectmen's Response to the Manager's Report**

Mr. Moore inquired if the costs provided by Chief Lipe for the box seven services included benefits. Mr. Barrington confirmed that it did. Mr. Moore also asked when the Highland water main project would start. Mr. Barrington said that the project was to begin in spring but he would need to confirm the actual date.

Mr. Griffin inquired about the Town's financial status. Mr. Barrington said that the remaining balance for 2005 appropriation is approximately \$50,000. He also said that this figure is subject to change as bills come in and when the audit is complete. Mr. Griffin said that many citizens are under the impression that a lot of money has been spent in the last month. Mr. Barrington explained that at the end of each budget year the financial status is reviewed. During this review purchase orders are issued to encumber funds. During the past summer months there was a hemorrhage of money. At that time department heads were asked to carefully watch what was spent. Purchases that were not considered absolutely necessary were not bought. In September the financial situation was reviewed and the financial picture became clearer. Department Heads were then instructed to consider purchasing items that were previously budgeted and planned. These needed purchases were put off until it was apparent that the Town could afford these encumbered purchases. There was approximately \$1.3 million in the last six weeks that have been spent or encumbered by purchase orders.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell mentioned that she has had many phone calls regarding the \$1.3 million encumbered amount. In addition she requested a copy of the Police Captains' job descriptions.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that she went to the Finance Director Dawna Duhamel last week to gain a better understanding of the Town's financial position. Mrs. Bridle-Russell learned that each department has purchasing power and for that reason the Finance Director does not know what purchases are still to come. She said that there must be a better procedure to know the financial position of the Town earlier. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that many voters are asking why four firefighters were laid off and the transfer station hours cut back when there is money available. Mr. Barrington explained that under New Hampshire municipal budget law, towns cannot exceed the budget. To manage the budget the Town has developed strategies to prevent overspending.

With so many uncertainties late in the year, it is necessary to keep enough funds available in the event of a major fire or snowstorm. It is typical to hold off on a lot of activities until close to the end of the year when the financial status is established. Mr. Barrington emphasize that there is nothing different about this year from any other year except for the default budget.

Chairman Workman passed the gavel to Vice-Chairman Pratt and requested that he act as the Chairman as he entertained a motion.

**Mr. Workman MOTIONED** to create a five member, ad hoc appropriation oversight commission. The responsibility of this group will be to explore the Town's appropriation processes and to identify how to make it more efficient. The members will include the Town Moderator as the Chairman, one Budget Committee member and three public at large members. The Commission would be required to report to the Board of Selectmen by May 1. The Commission will be responsible to investigate the process of appropriations and how the Town spends its money. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

#### **Discussion:**

Mr. Griffin asked where the nominations would come from. Mr. Workman suggested that those interested contact the Town Manager's office within the next two weeks.

Mr. Pratt emphasized the importance of keeping within the law and not overspending the budget. He said that there is a need to have extra money in the case of an emergency. Mr. Workman responded by saying that he believes this commission would give the Board of Selectmen credibility. In addition he said that the commission would be an advisory group.

Mr. Moore mentioned that the Town spends approximately \$6 million on non-personnel non-debt service items. This is approximately \$500,000 a month on purchase orders. Mr. Moore asked if Mr. Workman meant the term procurement rather than appropriation. Mr. Workman said that he sees the Commission as a group who would discuss the purchasing procedures with the Town Manager, Finance Director and Department Heads to determine the best process.

Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that she thinks the Commission is a good idea as many of the Department Heads did without. She said that this past year has been very stressful on some Departments and perhaps if additional personnel could have been hired it would have helped to reduce the stress load.

People interested in being on the Commission may contact the Town Manager's office before January 20<sup>th</sup>. They are required to provide their name, contact information and qualification statement. Ideally these people would have experience in finance or managing large budgets.

## 2 – CONSIDER WHS TRAFFIC ENGINEER REPORT

The Board of Selectmen and the Winnacunnet High School Board attended the Traffic Report meeting last week.

Attorney Mark Gearreald said that the Town Manager and Winnacunnet School Board mutually agreed to hire Steve Perhaw as the traffic engineer. There were nine recommendations as a result of the study. According to the Winnacunnet and Town Consent Decree the School District, at its expense will implement the recommendations as agreed to by the Board of Selectmen or voters' response at the Town Meeting which ever is first unless it exceeds \$125,000. Attorney Gearreald recommended that a Town Meeting is not required as the Town is restoring a right turn capability. For that reason a Town vote is not required as the Board of Selectmen have authority to regulate town roads.

The consensus of the Board was that it was a very productive meeting and there were many suitable recommendations developed as a result of the study. Recommendations were as follows: flashing beacons, modify right turn radius on corner of driveway, construct a ten foot wide left turn lane, remove the speed bump closest to Winnacunnet Road, on driveway, utilize the high school driveway as "entrance only" during busy periods, right lane reestablished, with a channelization island, trim shrubs left of Park Avenue exit, maintain stop signs and do not provide access close to Winnacunnet Road for future parking.

Mr. Moore asked if implementing all the recommendations would cost more than \$125,000. Mr. Barrington said that the project should be less than \$125,000.

**Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to instruct the Winnacunnet School District to implement the traffic engineer's recommendations as a Town vote is not required. **Mr. Griffin SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

## 3 – WARRANT ARTICLES

**Article 17** – *"....Shall the Town of Hampton vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$59,500 to make repairs to the Lane Memorial Library, including addressing the problem of the handicapped ramp access in the winter? Such authorization shall include all design, architectural, engineering, demolition, removal, procurement,...."*

Mr. Barrington said that he received an email from Catherine Redden stating that \$59,500 was the correct amount.

**Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to recommend Article 17. **Mr. Griffin SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

### **Article 12**

*"....Shall the Town of Hampton raise \$114,960 and appropriate \$574,800 to fund the 20% local share of, and to accept an 80% share from a CMAQ grant for all costs of procurement, engineering, design, and construction work associated with a bike path / road widening project along...."*

Mr. Barrington stated that this is the best information available to him at this time. He will be attending a meeting with the Transportation Enhancement Advisory Committee on Wednesday to address this funding issue. The Article may then be amended at the deliberative session.

**Article 20**

*“.....rescind the provisions of RSA 31:95-c as to the Hampton Emergency Medical Services Fund, a Special Revenue Fund created by Article 15 of the 2000 Town Meeting and funded with revenues generated from ambulance and emergency medical services calls, and transfer any surplus remaining in said Fund up to the sum of \$200,000 into, and vote to establish an Ambulance Service Revolving fund.....”*

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to recommend Article 20. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article 25** – *“....vote to appropriate only the sum of \$240,405 from the special revenue fund made up of 20% of gross parking lots funds allocated to the Hampton Beach Village District by Article 41 of the 1996 Town Meeting, for the purpose of installing the infrastructure for and/or ornamental street lights in the Hampton Beach Village District, and for all related costs associated with said installation? This appropriation will not affect the Town's tax rate....”*

Mr. Barrington has been working with the Hampton Village District to ensure that both parties are content with the wording of the Article.

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to recommend Article 25. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article 27** – *“.....appropriate only the sum of \$10,600 generated from the sale of town-owned cemetery lots, to the Cemetery Burial Trust Fund; the interest from this Fund is withdrawn annually and deposited in the Town's General Fund as an offset to the amount appropriated in the operating budget for the maintenance of the cemeteries. This appropriation will not affect the Town's tax rate....”*

**Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to recommend Article 27. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article 28** – *“.....vote to retain the 29-foot Winninghoff fire rescue boat which was authorized by Article 22 of the 2002 Town Meeting?.....”*

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to approve Article 28. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article H** – *“.....vote to charge a fee of \$10 per year for the issuance of a Resident Parking Sticker, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to adjust the fee from time to time as they deem in the best interest of the Town?....”*

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to approve Article H. **Mr. Griffin SECONDED.**

**AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION: Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to authorize the Board of Selectmen to set an effective date. **Mr. Pratt SECONDED.**

**VOTE ON AMENDMENT: UNANIMOUS FOR**  
**VOTE ON MOTION AS AMENDED: 4 FOR**  
**1 OPPOSED - Workman**

**Article I** – “....charge a fee of \$10 per year for the issuance of a Transfer Station Use Sticker, and to authorize the Board of Selectmen to adjust the fee from time to time as they deem in the best interest of the Town?....”

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to remove Article I from the Warrant. **Mr. Griffin SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article F** was addressed early in the meeting.

Last year when Hampton voters supported a default budget the Board cut the financial support to social services. Mrs. Bridle-Russell said that many of these social service agencies are financially struggling. She believes that the funding should be restored.

**PETITIONED ARTICLES:**

**Article P1** – “....Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) and at least 25 Hampton registered voters, shall the Town of Hampton raise and appropriate the sum of \$1,800 to defray the costs of services provided to Hampton residents.”

**Mr. Griffin MOTIONED** to recommend Article P1. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P3** – “.....raise and appropriate \$5,500 to fund the Social Service Agency Funding Request from “A Safe Place” in Portsmouth NH. A Safe Place provides shelter, support, and advocacy to victims of Domestic Abuse...”

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to recommend Article P3. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P4** – “...raise and appropriate through warrant article, the sum of \$40,000 for support of the “free care” the Seacoast Visiting Nurse Association (VNA)....”

Cathy Larkin and Paul Mitchell addressed the Board. Seacoast Visiting nurses provides services such as blood pressure and blood sugar clinics that are free to Hampton residents. The money goes towards the services not for staff or administrative purposes.

**Mr. Griffin MOTIONED** to recommend Article P4. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P5** – “....petition the Town of Hampton to place on the Warrant the request to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the amount of \$3,930 to support Rockingham Nutrition & Meals on Wheels Program’s...”

**Mr. Griffin MOTIONED** to recommend Article P5. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**



**Article P6** – *“.....raise and appropriate the sum of \$15,000 to defray the costs provided to Hampton residents by Cross Roads House, Inc. Cross Roads House provides emergency and transitional shelter to homeless families and individuals....”*

**Mr. Griffin MOTIONED** to recommend Article P6. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P7** - *to raise and appropriate the sum of \$12,000 for the purpose of helping to defray the cost of homecare services provided to low-income, medically fragile elderly Hampton residents by Area Home Care & Family Services, Inc.*

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to recommend Article P7. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P8** - *“.....raise and appropriate the sum of \$22,525 for the purpose of providing full larviciding of the mosquito breeding areas, including the catch basins, and for funding the spraying of adult mosquitoes during the months of late July through September, when the mosquitoes that carry the Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) disease...”*

**Mrs. Bridle-Russell MOTIONED** to recommend Article P8. **Mr. Griffin SECONDED.**

**VOTE: 3 FOR  
2 OPPOSED – Moore & Workman**

**Article P9** – *“.....raise and appropriate the amount of \$3,500 for Lamprey Senior Transportation....”*

**Mrs. Bridle-Russell MOTIONED** to recommend Article P9. **Mr. Griffin SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P10** – *“.....raise and appropriate \$6,000 in 2006 for The Richie McFarland Children’s Center....”*

**Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to recommend Article P10. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P11** – *“.....raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$100,000 to use as matching funds to purchase all or part of the property on Woodland Rd (Map #95 lot #2 and Map #96 lot #3) totaling 14.68 acres, around and including a section of the historically-important Ice Pond....”*

Ellen Goethel addressed the Board. She said that she has discussed the article with Attorney Gearreald and the Conservation Commission is working toward setting up a fund to accept donations from the public to support the purchase of the Ice Pond.

**Mr. Griffin MOTIONED** to recommend Article P11. **Mr. Pratt SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**



**Article P12** – “...raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,000 to Sexual Assault Support Services (SASS), a private non-profit organization.”

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to recommend Article P12. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P13** – “.....raise and appropriate the amount of \$7,500 for Seacoast Hospice, a non-profit organization.”

**Mrs. Bridle-Russell MOTIONED** to recommend Article P13. **Mr. Griffin SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P14** – “...Victor R. Maloney, and Seacoast Youth Services (SYS), and at least 25 Hampton registered voters, shall the Town of Hampton raise and appropriate the sum of \$2,500.00 to defray the costs of services provided to Hampton residents. SYS is seeking funding to support a variety of substance abuse....”

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to recommend Article P14. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P15** – “...Child & Family Services and at least 25 Hampton registered voters, shall the Town of Hampton raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000 to defray the costs of services provided to Hampton residents....”

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to recommend Article P15. **Mr. Moore SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P16** – “...SeaCare Health Services and twenty five registered voters to see if the Town of Hampton will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000 to support the health services offered by SeaCare Health Services to the uninsured, working families who are residents of the Town...”

**Mrs. Bridle-Russell MOTIONED** to recommend Article P16. **Mr. Griffin SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

**Article P17** – “...Matt Shaw, Richard Bateman, David Lang and at least (24) other legal voters of the Town of Hampton, to see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$21,000 for the addition of needed grave space at the High Street Cemetery.

Danny Kenny addressed the Board of Selectmen. He requested that the Board recommend this article to fund the opening of a new section in the High Street Cemetery for additional grave sites.

**Mr. Pratt MOTIONED** to recommend Article P17. **Mrs. Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

Mr. Workman reminded citizens that the deadline for articles is tomorrow, January 10 at 5 pm.

#### **4 - FIRE ALARM SERVICE**

Chief Lipe addressed the Board. He said that a decision needs to be made in regards to whether or not the municipal fire alarm service that the Fire Department provides should continue. It is a costly service and many expensive upgrades will soon be required.

Chief Lipe said that if the service was discontinued the majority of Town businesses would need to seek services through a private vendor. It was mentioned that the issue should be endorsed by Town voters as to whether or not they want tax dollars to be spent to provide this service. Article 24 has been written for voters to consider.

*Article 24 – “.....rescind the provisions of RSA 31:95-c as to the Fire Alarm Fund, a Special Revenue Fund created by Article 53 of the 2003 Town Meeting to operate, upgrade, and maintain a Fire Alarm System in the Town of Hampton, and to expend any surplus remaining in said Fund up to the sum of \$1,000 on costs of decommissioning any fire alarm system equipment or lines utilized by the Fire Department that are no longer needed within the Town of Hampton....”*

Chief Lipe said that the service involves excessive overtime costs and the Town could potentially save money by disbanding the service. There is less money for departments and it is difficult to provide the same services with less funding.

Mr. Moore suggested that the Fire Department notify businesses so that they may make other arrangements for fire alarm service.

If Article 24 is supported by the majority of voters the service would be eliminated.

Chief Lipe said that the service needs to be contemplated because it is a historic service.

Attorney Gearreald recommended clarifying the article so that voters are aware on the consequences of their vote. He suggested including “passage of this article would result in discontinuing the existing fire alarm services” and defeat of the alarm service would mean that the Fire Department continue providing the services.

**Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to recommend Article P24 with the amendments as suggested by Attorney Gearreald.  
**Mr. Pratt SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

#### **Old Business Continued**

Mr. Moore suggested that on February 13 the Board consider parking and loading zones in the beach area.

Mr. Griffin brought to the attention of the Board a news article from Sunday’s Portsmouth Herald. He said that it is a very positive article and it says that the Town is going through a revitalization process.

#### **IV. NEW BUSINESS**

None

#### **V. MINUTES – JANUARY 2, 2006**

**Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to accept the minutes as presented. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

#### **VI - CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **1 – Rockingham Nursing Home application**

**Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to accept the consent agenda which included the Rockingham Nursing Home application. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

#### **VII - PUBLIC COMMENT**

Skip Sullivan said that as the former Fire Chief he said that he is familiar with the spending spree that occurs at the end of December. He feels by telling people that there was not a spending spree is insulting to the citizens of Hampton and that the people who were laid off should have been rehired.

Richard Reniere asked for clarification in regards to whether or not Highland Avenue would be two way during the Church Street construction. Mr. Barrington said that there were some problems with that idea and that Highland Avenue will not become a two way street during the construction process. In addition Mr. Reniere commented on the fire alarm service. He said that his wife was injured and that he shied away from using the fire alarm box and just called 911 on his cell phone. He said that he was not confident that the box would notify emergency services in a prompt manner. Mr. Reniere commented on the terrific job that the emergency crew did and he feels that the fire alarm systems should be discontinued.

Maurice Friedman addressed the Board. He said that he would like to discuss how the Town could do things better. He too had see the article in the Portsmouth Herald and wanted to bring it to the attention of the Board and citizens of Hampton. He commented that he sees the upgrade at the beach both positive and negative. He questioned if losing parking spaces is an upgrade or existing home owners losing their ocean view as a result of a condo being built along the beach is an upgrade. He also said that there are a number of people in Hampton that are dependant on social services. Funding these social services was cut from the budget last year. He is still perplexed to why these services were not funded as so many Hampton residents utilize the many social service providers. He would like to see the Town support a Senior Center, youth services and an improved fire station. He said that the fire station is in poor condition and requires attention.

There was some confusion in regards to Mr. Friedman's appointment date. He will be scheduled to speak at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.

Fred Rice discussed fire alarms with the Board. He requested that Article 24 be clarified. He feels that it is confusing the way it is presented.

Mr. Rice also said that he was concerned about the headlines in the Hampton Union newspaper. He said the article was fine, it was the headline that was the issue. The title was "Bunker Against Beach Condos". The author of the newspaper article Mr. Cronin explained to Mr. Rice that he does not write the headlines. Mr. Rice explained that the Beach Commission is to help with zoning to help improve the Beach area. The Commission is trying to preserve the retail commercial strip. They would like to see businesses that help with the vitality of the beach area. It was suggested that new single family homes should be prohibited at ground level along the commercial, retail strip along Ocean Boulevard. The decision had nothing to do with condominiums. The Commission is looking at various building densities in the area. All new buildings will still need to comply with zoning specifications. In addition the Commission is looking at condo conversions. They have recommended that all condo conversions have at least one parking space for each unit. The Commission offers assistance to developers in the area.

#### **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Mr. Moore MOTIONED** to adjourn the meeting at 9:38PM. **Mrs. Bridle-Russell SECONDED.**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS FOR**

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Chairman